

ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY

F. LEE CRISMAN

Nov. 21, 1968

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NOVEMBER 21, 1968

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

PRESENT: MR. JAMES ALCOCK, MR. ANDREW SCIAMBRA, MR.  
ALVIN OSER and MR. NUMA BERTEL, and

MEMBERS OF THE ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY

F. LEE CRISMAN

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Reported by:  
Maureen B. Thiel  
Secretary

F. LEE CRISMAN, witness herein, after being duly sworn,  
testified as follows:

MR. ALCOCK:

Please state your name for the record.

A. F. Lee Crisman.

Q. Mr. Crisman, although you spoke to your attorney, it's my duty to advise you of your Constitutional rights since you are a witness before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury. Anything you say in here can be used against you in a court of law, however under the United States Constitution and the Louisiana State Constitution you have a right to refuse to answer any question that you feel may incriminate you or tend to incriminate you of any criminal offense, do you understand that?

A. Yes.

Q. And since you have taken an oath you must tell the Jury the truth, and if you do not you will be subject to the law of perjury of the State of Louisiana, do you understand that?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, please give us your place of employment and address at the present time.

A. Radio Station KAYE, located in Takoma, Washington. I live at 928 Grant Street, North Grant Street, Takoma, Wash.

Q. Have you been at the Radio Station how long?

A. Since last August of this year.

Q. What are your duties there?

A. Radio commentator, I conduct a 3-hour talk show in the evening.

Q. Political, religious or what?

A. Whatever people want to talk about.

Q. Do the people call in?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Is this your sole employment at this time?
- A. No, I work for an advertising agency also.
- Q. What is the name of the agency?
- A. Riconosciuto.
- Q. What sort of operation is that?
- A. Advertising agency that handles quite a few political candidates and any type of advertising generally, its owned by a man named Marshall, one of Riconosciuto's employees.
- Q. Are you an officer of the company or an employee?
- A. No, I write assignments for people, political speeches, etc.
- Q. How long have you been working for this advertising organization?
- A. About two and a half years.
- Q. Prior to going with the radio station, by whom were you employed?
- A. Mostly by Riconosciuto Advertising Agency.
- Q. Prior to that by whom were you employed?
- A. Cascade School District at Salem, Oregon.
- Q. In what capacity?
- A. Writing federal educational programs.
- Q. How long were you there?
- A. Two years.
- Q. And prior to that what did you do?
- A. Vice Principal and English teacher at Ranier High School, <sup>Oregon</sup> Ranier, on the Columbia River, right across from Washington.

- Q. That brings us back to about '64 or so?
- A. Yes. I was there two years, I think '63 to '65.
- Q. Were you in the teaching field prior to that?
- A. Yes. No, prior to that I was working for Boeing Aircraft.
- Q. In Washington?
- A. Yes, in Seattle.
- Q. How long were you with Boeing?
- A. A little over two years.
- Q. In what capacity?
- A. I was a personnel representative.
- Q. Did this require you going around the country?
- A. No, I never left the Seattle plant.
- Q. I thought you may have gone on a recruiting drive?
- A. No, I did not.
- Q. Have you been down to New Orleans before?
- A. Yes.
- Q. When was the first time?
- A. About two years ago, right about this time.
- Q. What was the purpose of that visit?
- A. I came here with a young man, Tom Beckham, he has a show name of Mark Evans. It was in the vain hope that we could promote a record he was getting ready to cut and I was unfortunate enough to believe that he could promote it here and I went ahead and financed the trip and it turned out to be nothing.
- Q. How long were you here?
- A. About four or five days.

Q. And this was the first time you came to New Orleans?

A. Yes.

Q. Where did you meet Beckham?

A. In the State of Washington.

Q. How did you come about meeting him?

A. I met him through another friend of mine, a man who operates a large second-hand store of this type of thing. I was there for books and he introduced me to Tom, and that is the first time I met him. It was a few months prior to coming down here.

Q. This was approximately in '66?

A. Yes, it was in late spring of '66.

Q. That was the first time when you initially met Beckham?

A. Yes.

Q. Now when you were down here with Beckham in the late spring of 1966 ...

A. I met him in the late spring of '66, I didn't come down here until October or November, just about this time, just prior to Thanksgiving.

Q. Do you remember the name of the person who introduced you to Beckham?

A. Yes, his name was Harold Dahl.

Q. You say he owns a ...

A. A large second-hand store of machinery, all types of books, just plain junk.

Q. You recall where you all stayed when you were down here that time?

A. Yes, at the Downtowner.

Q. Did you meet any local citizens at that time?

- A. Yes, Tom introduced me to several of them.
- Q. Do you recall any of their names?
- A. The only one I can remember, I think, was one by the name of Allen Roswell, I believe ...
- Q. Roswell Allen?
- A. I think that was it, yes.
- Q. Could it have been Roswell Thompson?
- A. Thompson, yes, that's right.
- Q. Do you recall anybody else you met down here then?
- A. No, he introduced me to several people, but none that I paid any particular attention to or had relationship with.
- Q. This was all in conjunction with the record deal?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Have you had occasion to come back to New Orleans since that time?
- A. No.
- Q. You have been here that one time and that time only?
- A. Yes, since World War II, I was a pilot at that time and was stationed in Florida and we used to fly in here for an overnight trips, on weekends.
- Q. What airport did you stay at?
- A. I don't recall, it was a naval airport, as I recall.
- Q. Where were you stationed in Florida?
- A. Several places, Henderson Field in Tampa, I was at a temporary field called Cork City (phonetically spelled), and I was at Lakeland when we shipped overseas.
- Q. Can you ever remember flying into the New Orleans Airport, the Lakefront Airport, ... do you know where the Lakefront Airport is?

- A. No, I don't. We usually took a light aircraft.
- Q. Do you recall meeting a Sergio Arcacha Smith when you were here?
- A. No, I don't recall.
- Q. Do you know who I am talking about?
- A. I can't picture him, I don't recognize the name Smith, I remember the name Sergio Arcacha.
- Q. You don't recall meeting him?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you meet any Cubans down here?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you recall meeting David Ferrie when you were down here?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you ever see a picture of David Ferrie?
- A. Yes I have seen pictures in magazines, that sort of thing ..
- Q. And you are positive that you never met him?
- A. Positive.
- Q. Do you ever remember Beckham's mentioning Ferrie's name to you?
- A. I remember him mentioning it once or twice, but only in a derogatory way, and not while we were here, only after we were discussing the Garrison investigation that he brought out the fact that he met Ferrie one time. From his conversation he did not have too high an opinion of him.
- Q. Do you travel around quite a bit?
- A. No, I don't travel much.



Q. Have you ever been to Dallas?

A. Yes.

Q. When were you there?

A. During the same trip.

Q. Did you go there first, or did you meet here and go to Dallas.

A. We went to New York first, I think we went to Dallas and to Houston and from Houston to New Orleans and back to Takoma.

Q. Was this by car, rail or ...

A. By plane.

Q. Just you and Beckham?

A. Yes.

Q. Are you engaged in any other business ventures with Beckham at this time?

A. Yes and no, its hard to explain. Beckham is quite a promoter and while he was in Olympia I lived in Takoma and he rented a small office and put together a thing he called Professional Research Bureau and I was amazed at it at first, I was in Takoma and I really didn't have too much time and a couple of times he talked to me about what all he could do with a research bureau, and I was not too much interested, but much to my surprise he had it incorporated and my name was on the corporation papers and I went along with it, I didn't have anything to fear from it, but unbeknownst to me he went ahead and incorporated three or four others, other outfits, non profit organizations, and it was only about January of 1967, I think, that one of our Assistant Attorney Generals called me in and said what are you doing getting involved in non-profit corporations and I was really quite amazed at it myself. One or two I knew about, the others I did not, I did not know my name was on them as one of the incorporators, why he put them together ... and he put together some kind of organization a membership service for ambulance and towcart drivers, this type of thing. I was amazed that he could put all this stuff together in such a short time, but he did.

Q. You are not actively engaged in any businesses with him

at this time, are you?

A. No, not since he left. He left and went to Lincoln, Nebraska and then to Omaha about Christmas of '66 and I had no business relationship with him since that time.

Q. You corresponded with him since?

A. Yes, he called me recently, just the other day, he saw in the paper somewhere where I had been subpoenaed and he called me up and asked me if I was going to go, and I told him yes, I was going to go, I had no choice, that is the last time I talked to him. I believe he was in Omaha when he called.

Q. Do you know any persons who live in the State of Louisiana, not just the City of New Orleans?

A. No.

Q. None at all?

A. No. One or two of the newspaper reporters talked to me as if I were well acquainted down here, but I am not, and a reporter asked me if I had worked in the Boeing Complex in Louisiana, but I have not, I have only worked in the Seattle plant and in only one plant there.

Q. And for approximately two years?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you have any continuing relationship with Boeing since you left?

A. No.

Q. Have you ever worked for the U. S. Government in any capacity other than military service?

A. No.

Q. None at all?

A. No.

Q. Do you have a passport?

- A. No sir.
- Q. None at all?
- A. No sir.
- Q. Do you know Clinton Week?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you know Edgar Eugene Bradley?
- A. No, I do not.
- Q. Do you know Clay Shaw?
- A. No I do not.
- Q. Have you spoken to Mr. Shaw on the telephone?
- A. No, I never have. I never had any reason to.
- Q. Did his attorney get to talk to you today, I know he was looking for you? Wanted to know if he could talk to you and I said it was perfectly all right with me.
- A. He talked to my attorney. I asked Bob what he asked him and he said he asked him if I knew Clay Shaw.
- Q. Do you know W. D. White?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Who is that?
- A. My stepfather.
- Q. Does he live with you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Was he in the military at one time?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What branch?

- A. Infantry.
- Q. What rank?
- A. Master Sgt., Retired.
- Q. You said you were in the Service also?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You were a flyer?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you do any flying now?
- A. No.
- Q. When was the last time you did any flying?
- A. In military service.
- Q. Second World War?
- A. Korea, I was recalled.
- Q. Does Beckham fly a plane?
- A. Not that I know of.
- Q. I just took it for granted when you said that you and Beckham had flown a light plane down here in '66 ..
- A. No, when I said light plane, it was during World War II we would take a light plane and fly over here from Florida to stay overnight.
- Q. So that was a commercial airline?
- A. Yes, we flew from Washington and it was commercial.
- Q. After you were subpoenaed you expressed some puzzlement at being subpoenaed and then you indicated it might be your relationship with Beckham and Beckham being a banker for Cuban organizations, will you explain what you mean by that?

A. There was a story that Beckham had told me, and it was the only thing I could think of in relationship to what I had read about Mr. Garrison's investigation, and what Beckham had told me about what had gone on and what had happened, now how much of it was true and how much not true I am not a judge. But he told me that he had some adventures with the Cubans who were anti-Castro, and he had served at one time prior to the Bay of Pigs, not only as a fund raiser publicly but also as a type of banker, he had helped them with their money. He also told me that prior to the Bay of Pigs it was quite the thing to do to be helping raise money for the Cuban resistance fighters, but afterwards the Federal Government instituted a program of attempting to shut things down as far as ~~as far~~ as their attacks on Cuba was concerned, which was public knowledge as far as I was concerned, but his part was also, he stated, a fund of money he was in charge of that belonged to the Cubans and there had been Treasury agents and FBI agents looking for him and that he had finally given what was left of the money to Roccas (phonetically spelled) in Dallas, and he went on to Jacksonville, Florida where he was met by an FBI agent and he turned over the rest of the money to the FBI agent, and the funds that were left, this was the fund that had been used if such a thing existed, the only money he knew of that could have financed such a thing as the assassination of the President. As far as I was concerned this was the story he told, and it was among many other stories that he told me. I didn't disvalue it nor did I value it. In the first place you have to know Tom Beckham in order to know how to take this man, about the time you have decided he is telling you a complete set of untruths and completely beyond, it turns out to be true, whatever he is telling you, and how much truth and how much fiction you can never gage.

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- Q. I take/you never personally participated with Mr. Beckham in any Cuban activities at all?
- A. No, this was prior to my having even met the man.
- Q. Are you associated with any churches?
- A. Not directly, no, and I will explain how this thing came about, because ever since this publicity started it has been a seal around my neck. Prior to my meeting Beckham I met a man by the name of Hensley and he has the Universal Life Church, which originally was a split many years ago,

I have researched this whole thing for him and he asked me if I would write the body of the leaflet for him, I had never done such a thing before, I did not know how to go about it, so I asked him to tell me what he knew about it. Well, it originally had been a stemoff of the Methodist Church so I went back and traced the history of the Methodist Church and wrote the original history of this thing, how it came about and how it finally became universal, the Universal Life Church, which I sent to him and for which he paid me. He also sent me a bishop's .. thing .. in this church. This was also released to the newspapers and here am - I am not a practicing minister by any means but all of a sudden I am a Bishop in this church and it was a little embarrassing, and this is how this came about.

Q. Do you know Rev. Broshears?

A. No, I don't.

Q. Have you had any correspondence with him?

A. Not that I know of. I had a tremendous amount of people send me letters and that sort of thing. On top of that Mr. Beckham got hold of this and got himself a bishoric in Lincoln or Omaha and he put together a whole series of secondhand shops and printed the whole thing up and had all types of material printed and had my name on it as a consultant and all this malarky, and I had nothing to do with it. The same thing as when he was first subpoenaed by Mr. Garrison he thought it was something great, and I couldn't see his point of view, he made a record, a LP album, called "Material Witness", and in this album he mentions my name about two or three times, which is not only a little embarrassing but he sent it to radio stations all over the area where I live. And I am on a radio station myself and this is a little embarrassing once in a while to have fellows in the radio business say 'well, Bishop, when are you going back to see Jim Garrison', this type of thing. And a man on the phone tells me he is a reporter on the Times-Picayune and he says 'what do you have to say about the subpoena that Grand Jury of Orleans Parish has issued for you'. My first reaction was almost hysteria for me, for what! - for now I am placed in the position in my own home state, for I am a personality there radiowise,

of saying I am not going there to face the Jury and having a great many people say well anyone who does not have anything to fear, why would you be afraid to go before a Grand Jury, I would be placed in that position, I had no choice in the matter except here I am.

Q. Did you ever belong to Beckham's National Institute of Criminology?

A. I wrote the stuff for it. I wrote the correspondence School lessons for it, for which I was supposed to be paid and which I never have.

Q. When was this?

A. In the fall of 1966. This was one of the first things that really amazed me when he came to me with this and said well I can get this incorporated as a school, I said fine, go ahead, and a couple or three weeks later he came back and had the thing incorporated. I thought it could not happen, but it did.

Q. Do you know a man by the name of E. Carl McNabb?

A. No.

Q. How about Ray Halpern?

A. No.

Q. Were you involved with some gypsy organization?

A. Here we go again. A man by the name of Miller Stevens looked upon as much as can be a National leader, in Washington quite a few times, associated with the Welfare Department and Health Education and with the Office of Equal Opportunity back there, I have known him for many years, I was born and raised in Takoma and he has been located in Takoma since the late 40's. He knew I had written educational programs for public schools, so he wanted to get the Headstart program for his people, he thought his people had been overlooked in this program, so he asked me if I could write the program for him. I wrote the program and he submitted it to the public schools for their approval, they approved it, and it went on back East to their people and they made a tentative grant of

six thousand dollars to start out with, which was administered by the Tacoma Public Schools, and that was as far as I took it, I took it no further. It was then taken up by the Takoma Schools and by their special staff writers they have to handle their federal programing, and it has just been programmed again for another \$24,000.00 in conjunction with another girls' school which is going to be started in Baltimore, and I believe this will be administered by the Baltimore Public Schools. That is my connection with it.

Q. Are you essentially a writer?

A. Yes, essentially I am an English teacher, High School grade, but I quit teaching High School to go to work for Boeing for one purpose, I had a daughter getting ready to go to college and I could not earn enough money to send her to college, unfortunately my daughter was killed in an automobile accident in 1964, but while I was working for Boeing was when I began to write other things, and I found there were agencies that would hire me to write, certain advertising agencies, I worked for Worldwide agencies, I worked for Western agencies, on assignment basis right there in Seattle and Takoma, and from there I moved on to writing political material for candidates. I just finished writing quite a bit of material for this past campaign. I am writing material right now under assignment wherein the City of Tacoma is trying to remove the City Manager form of government and the other side is trying to keep it in, and I have been hired by the group that is trying .. what they call the Civic Improvement Association .. a group of citizens who have put up the money to campaign and try and get the City Charter changed from the City Manager form of government and I have written a tremendous /of material for that in the last three months.  
amount advertising

Q. And that is principally what this Worldwide/Agency is interested in ...

A. No, Worldwide Agency is engaged in general advertising, but Riconosciuto has Channel TV Magazine, they handle all types of advertising, different types of stories, brochures for different types of stories, one of their departments happens to have or handle political candidates, write their TV for them, etc.

Q. You told me you did not know C. Clinton Reed, is that correct?



- A. No, I don't.
- Q. How about Dr. Drennan?
- A. No sir I don't know him.
- Q. Have you ever lived in California? Have you ever lived in any other state besides Washington and Oregon?
- A. No.
- Q. When did you leave the military service after Second World War?
- A. 1946. I got out of the Korean Conflict in 1953.
- Q. When did you go in the Korean Conflict?
- A. 1951.
- Q. What rank did you come out with?
- A. Captain.
- Q. Back to the money Beckham had received from the Government or was in possession of in relationship to the Anti-Cuban organizations, you said you had never seen this money, it was just told to you by Beckham?
- A. Yes, Beckham told me about it.
- Q. What was the phrase 'the money could have been used in the Assassination of President Kennedy'?
- A. Yes.
- Q. He did not elaborate any further on it?
- A. No.
- Q. At the time he was involved in this you had not been to New Orleans at all?
- A. No.
- Q. And as far as Beckham's contacts with the anti-Castro activities in the City here, you had no contacts with

these groups either?

A. No. He mentioned Sergio Arcacha Smith, and someone else, another name mentioned, I think it was Juan ...

Q. I can't remember now ...

Q. Could it have been Rabel?

A. Yes.

Q. Louis Rabel?

A. q Yes, but that is not the way he pronounced it.

Q. Did he mention Gordon Novel, did he ever mention him to you

A. No.

Q. Do you know Gordon Novel?

A. No I don't.

Q. Do you know a man by the name of Ed Gardner (or Garner).

A. Yes.

Q. How do you know him?

A. He was a salesman for a used car lot in Takoma.

Q. Was that lot owned by Leo Grassi?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know him?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you had any business with him, or what?

A. Yes, at one time I was going to have an interest in the automobile business, but it never materialized.

Q. Were you ever associated with Service Awareness (phonetically spelled)

A. No, I heard the name several times, but I had no association with them whatsoever. I have been asked this before, I

don't even know what the organization actually is.

Q. You say Beckham called you when he had seen in the paper somewhere that you had been subpoenaed by the Grand Jury, did he also call you when he had been subpoenaed?

A. Yes.

Q. What were his thoughts about it at that time?

A. He called me to tell me about it, which was not unusual for him, he picks up the telephone quite easily, and I was neither impressed one way or another, because frankly I did not think that he had any ... I did not believe his story about the money but I thought if Mr. Garrison has enough evidence to call for him, there must be something to it.

Q. Do you know a W. C. Dawes?

A. I think he is a spiritualist man, or either a Life minister - I have met him several times ...

Q. Are you a Trustee of the Northwest Bishopric of the Life Church?

IA. I think so. This was another one of Tom's great corporations, he put together a non-profit organization called the Northwest Relief Society. It never did relieve anything, or work out to be anything.

Q. Was Grossi involved in some prosecution for violation of the laws of consumer protection, or something? Julio Grassi?

A. Yes, the State sued him for violation of the consumer protection act, which finally wound up with him being stopped from using the catch phrase 'No Money Down', and on his electric sign he had placed 'OAC' on it, 'On Approval of Credit'.

Q. Did you graduate from College?

A. Yes.

Q. What University?

A. University of Salem, Oregon.

Q. Did you attend Law School?

A. I went to Law School while at <sup>the</sup> University.

Q. Do you belong to any organizations such as The Minute Men?

A. No.

Q. Do you belong to any organizations? With political casts to them?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. Do you mean if you belonged to one, y o u would not know about it?

A. Its possible.

Q. I mean knowingly belong to it, not one Beckham signed you up for?

A. No, not knowingly. Believe me, he has signed me up for quite a few organizations. Every once in a while I get a certificate in the mail. He is a great certificate collector and I don't know how this works in Louisiana, but I have actually in my pocket right now a commission in the Louisiana State Police.

Q. How did you get this?

A. He got it for me. I don't know how.

Q. When did he get it for you?

A. Let me look at the date and find out. (looks at card) October 25, 1966.

Q. Was that when you were down here?

A. No, prior to that.

Q. (reading), Thomas Burbank. Do you know Thomas Burbank?

A. No, I don't.

Q. I see they have your picture, your height, your age, you didn't give them any of this?

A. I think Tom put this on the back, it was that way when I got it.

Q. I see. Didn't he ever tell you how he went about getting that for you?

A. He just told me he knew someone who could do it for him.

Q. Did he mention Supt. Burbank's name?

A. No. Out of the clear blue sky one day I got a commission as a Purser in the Merchant Marines.

Q. You have never been in the Merchant Marines?

A. Never in my life.

I checked to see if it was authentic and the Coast Guard Officer said it was. That is what I meant when I said you think he is lieing, then things happen. He asked me how would you like to have a commission in the Merchant Marines, I said 'great', and that is all that was said until I got this in the mail.

JUROR:

Would that enable you to go to the Port of Embarkation?

A. No, not unless you are in business here.

Q. It would enable you to get a job as Purser on a ship?

A. Oh yes. In about 4 weeks after I received it, I received application blanks from the Grace Lines and from the Military Overseas Transportation, they just sent me application blanks, evidently they just took the name from a list somewhere, I never sent for them, or applied for them.

Q. Have you ever used any aliases?

A. The only alias I ever used was right now, I have a program which is The Jon Gold Show, I use my middle name, Fred Lee, I have written under that name quite a bit.

Q. How about Cristman, have you ever used that?

- A. No.
- Q. How about Crissman?
- A. No.
- Q. Christman?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you have a Top Secret Washington State ID card?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What do you have that for?
- A. It was just a card that was given to me for an assignment when I was writing for Governor Rozeline (phonetically spelled).
- Q. Political writing?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How about Interpol? Do you have a card for Interpol?
- A. No. I got a thing from Washington, D. C., International Police Agency, but it has no relationship to any official ... I got a beautiful big certificate ... \$12.00 a year to belong to it ... a sum which I never sent ...
- Q. Have you ever received letters from Gov. McKeithen praising you on your work for Louisiana?
- A. No.
- Q. Are you a special investigator or a private detective?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you belong to the National Police Chief's Association?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you do any writing for Governor Wallace?

A. No.

Q. Have you ever been out of the country besides while in the Service?

A. I have been to Canada a few times, but I live next door to Canada. I was there a short time ago.

Q. On business?

A. No, I took my son, we went sightseeing for the day, a round trip, we went to Victoria, we took a roundtrip on the boat, came back the same day.

Q. Do you have any business dealings with anyone in Canada now?

A. No.

Q. Have you ever?

A. No.

Q. Miller Stevens is the man who owned the store, is that right?

A. No, Miller Stevens is the gypsy, who/as far as I could ascertain. is

Q. He is the one who had you write the stuff for the Gypsies?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you have a ranch?

A. No.

Q. Have you ever owned one?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever have occasion to go to a ranch?

A. No.

Q. Do you know anyone who owns a ranch out there?

- A. No.
- Q. Have you ever heard of the White Ranch?
- A. No.
- Q. In Carrollton, Oregon?
- A. My father rented 40 acres there for six or eight months during the last year and a half, he gave it up and lives in Portland now.
- Q. Was it a ranch?
- A. No, just an acreage, Carrollton is just outside Newberg, which is a suburb of Portland, I would not call it a ranch by any means. It had no stock on it. My dad is retired.
- Q. Did you ever hold any political meetings on this acreage?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you ever spend any time there?
- A. I stopped there several times to visit my dad, and that's all, I have not been there since last August, I think. My dad only rented it.
- Q. Have you ever directly or indirectly worked for the CIA?
- A. No.
- Q. Did Beckham ever mention to you that perhaps he worked for the CIA?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you know Jules Streisser?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you know Kenneth C. Wills?
- A. No.
- Q. Of the Northwest Relief Society, have you ever heard of that organization?



- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that one of Beckham's organizations?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know a person by the name of Livermore?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you know our Attorney General, Mr. Gremillion of the State of Louisiana?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you know Bob Lavender?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How do you know him?
- A. I met him through Tom Beckham, I believe.
- Q. You have any business with him or relationship with him?
- A. No, I don't have any relationship with him, he has a print shop or works in a print shop in Seattle.
- Q. You met him through Beckham?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You know Dan R. Brown?
- A. No.
- Q. What was the occasion of your meeting Lavender through Beckham, do you recall the purpose?
- A. Just someone he knew, that is all.
- Q. Did you have any business dealing with the Print Shop?
- A. No... Yes, I have, the name of my radio show is Jon Gold Show and he printed some stationery for me and charged me \$43.00 for it.
- Q. You know a Wolfgang Yost?

A. No.

Q. You belong to any Right Wing organizations?

A. No.

Q. No organizations at all?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever write any anti-Kennedy material?

A. Never.

Q. Did you ever tell anybody that you made several trips to New Orleans besides the one you told the Jury about?

A. No.

Q. Do you think you might have met Louis Rabel while you were here?

A. No, I don't believe I did, I am sure I would have recalled the name. I was not here long enough to engage in very much social activities.

Q. Do you recall meeting a man named Jack Martin down here?

A. I could have, I don't recall the name.

Q. Do you know anybody who might be termed either a part of or on the fringe of the Mafia?

A. No.

Q. Did you talk to any Federal agents or U. S. Attorneys or anything prior to that nature prior to coming down here?

A. Yes, an FBI man dropped into my home about two weeks ago right after this publicity broke and he brought a picture of a man, I believe his name was DePugh, and he asked me if I had ever met the man, I told him no and he told me they had a report that I had met this man in the northwest and took a trip to Mexico with him, which I could easily prove that I had not done, and this is just what I told him and he said that he had the report and was checking it out. He seemed to be satisfied with my story.

- Q. Was this after you received the subpoena to come to New Orleans?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did he show you any other pictures?
- A. Yes, he showed me the picture of some other man whose name I do not recall right now.
- Q. What did he look like, do you recall?
- A. A young looking guy, but I don't recall.
- Q. Did you get the impression that he was associated with the Minutemen?
- A. Yes, I got the impression that he was second in command, or something ...
- Q. Did you ever hear of DePugh before?
- A. Yes, I read about him, as I had read <sup>about</sup> the Minute Men, when he first showed it to me I could not recall the name, but he told me the organization he had been associated with, and then I recalled having read about it.
- Q. Was there any discussion about this subpoena?
- A. No.
- Q. Besides this particular agent, did you have any discussion about this subpoena? Other than <sup>with</sup> your attorney?
- A. You mean publicly?
- A. Yes.
- A. Yes I suppose I discussed it with most people I met ...
- Q. No, I mean anybody of an official capacity.
- A. No, no official.
- Q. Any State official?
- A. No.
- Q. Have you at any time been questioned by any Federal

people relative to the assassination?

A. No.

Q. Do you recall the agent's name who talked to you?

A. No I don't.

Q. Did he identify himself to you?

A. Yes, he had his credentials.

JUROR:

Mr. Crisman, do you know Clay Bertrand?

A. No I don't.

Q. Perry Russo?

A. No.

Q. When you were in New Orleans in 1966 with Beckham and trying to promote his recordings, how did Mr. Roswell Thompson fit into this?

A. He was one of the fellows that they introduced me to and I believe he told me he had a bar and a restaurant here and he would help promote this record. Beckham gave me the impression that he was well known in New Orleans and had lots of friends in show business and in a few days I saw he was on vacation and I said 'let's get out of here', he spent more time talking to old friends he met on the street and in various bars, which to me was not what we were here for. I was under the assumption from what he had told me of having contacts, and selling this and production business here in New Orleans that his friends would help out with this promotion. He had put together the music and he had produced 4 records, now whether they had sold I do not know. He had also put together this album which he calls 'Material Witness', in which he mentions me.

Q. How does he mention you in this album?

A. Oh, he talks about sometime or other when we were in Dallas or something like that, and its an exaggeration like any nightclub humorist would enlarge on a story

and has no reference to fact at all.

Q. But he uses your name?

A. Yes.

Q. MR. SCIAMBRA:

Did he know any people in Dallas who were in an official capacity at all?

A. No.

O. What about Jack Ruby? Did he ever mention his name?

A. No.

Q. MR. ALCOCK:

Other than your work at the radio station and your writing for these advertising agencies, do you have any other source of income?

A. No.

Q. With whom do you live in Washington?

A. My folks.

Q. Your boy lives with you?

A. No, my boy lives with his mother.

O. Have you ever been approached, considering your flying background, to engage in any activity such as flying things into Cuba or flying into the Congo, or anything like that?

A. No, not since the days of Chang Kai Chek in the late 40's.

JUROR:

You gave up flying altogether after you came out of the Service?

A. I am just now discovering that in order to get a pilot's license, I have a boy 15 who is in love with airplanes, and the idea that I am a pilot, I had to go back and take all the examinations over again just like I had never had

a license or never had any instructions, it seems a lot of foolishness and its expensive ...

Q. Do you have any idea how Mr. Beckham obtained the Special Agent's card?

A. No, I don't.

Q. It never was mentioned to you?

A. He just said he knew somebody who could get one, that was all.

Q. And the cards for these other organizations?

A. Some of this has value, but most of it ... I am amazed at these organizations that put out these certificates and all kinds of degrees, Masters' degrees, and all types, it seems that on an exchange type basis you can get any type you want. I hadn't run into this sort of thing until I met Tom ...

Q. Is there any information that you might have that we have not asked you?

A. No, because I am not quite sure what way you are trying to go, I have read everything that concerned Mr. Garrison and his investigation, especially the last few days, everything that I could possibly put my hands on, I even read the back issues in which he had an interview with Playboy Magazine, I have read ~~xxxx~~ almost everything that Mr. Garrison has had published, I felt that Mr. Garrison had something to go on at one time, I have never believed that Oswald was a loner in the assassination of the President and I felt Mr. Garrison had something going, but I did not know what.

Q. Any other questions?

Mr. Crisman we want to thank you for coming down, although our subpoena read today and tomorrow, ~~so~~ there will be no need for you to stay over, therefore, you are free to leave any time.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the preceding transcript is a true and correct copy of the testimony given, under oath, before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, on the 21st day of November, 1968, and reduced to typewriting by me.

Maureen B. Shief

